These strains ranked about in the same order of susceptibility to mildew in 1947 as they did in 1946. June 9, 1947, when all of the strains were fully mature and had stopped flowering, Tallarook which was the most resistant showed very slight mildew.

The total rainfall during April, 1946, at Tuskegee was 1.83 inches and the mean temperature was 66.8°F. In 1947 the rainfall during April was 9.42 inches and the mean temperature was 67.1°F.

Subclover in pure seedings on fine-textured soils has shown promise as a reseeding winter annual legume for upland pastures in northeastern Alabama at the Alexandria Experiment Field, as well as in the test referred to above at Tuskegee. In other plantings, which were made on sandy soils in central Alabama, attempts were made to introduce the legume into established carpet grass, Axonopus compressus, and Bermuda grass, Cynodon dactylon, sods. Although lime, phosphate, and potash were applied in all of these tests, an insignificant amount of clover survived the competition of the grass longer than 2 years when seeded in established sods.—E. H. Stewart and H. T. Rogers. Department of Agronomy and Soils, Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station, Auburn, Ala.

SWEET CORN AN IMPORTANT INDIAN FOOD PLANT IN THE PRE-COLUMBIAN PERIOD

This short note has been written to refute an article by A. T. Erwin1 which appeared in this Journal. A full presentation of data will appear elsewhere,2 but few who read this Journal will see the other. It seems desirable, therefore, to publish this note here.

Erwin has three times stated his view that “sweet corn made its appearance in the United States as a food plant near the beginning of the nineteenth century”; 3 (b) “is a mutation of field corn of post-Columbian origin”; 4 and (c) with considerable deviation in 1946, “the author sees no reason to deviate from his previous conclusion that ‘sweet corn was not an important food plant in the United States in the pre-Columbian period’” 5 (italics mine). The section quoted Erwin from his 1934 paper contradicts the statement quoted by me from the conclusion of the same paper, and is again denied in his 1942 paper. I can not see how one can say sweet corn was an American Indian food plant (important or not is immaterial) and still claim that it appeared as late as the beginning of the 19th century.

Erwin is unwilling to accept historical references to sweet corn, ethnologists’ reports that Indians consider sweet corn to be one of their aboriginal crops, and the occurrence of archeological sweet

5 See footnote 1.